

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

FRELINGHUYSEN, Rodney (Republican)
Representative, 11th District, New Jersey
Elected 1994 to the 104th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: New York City, New York - 29 April 1946

Home: Morristown, New Jersey

Marital Status: Married (Virginia) - 2 children

Religion: Episcopalian

Education: Hobart College, BA, 1969; Trinity College (Hartford, Connecticut), 1971

Military: US Army, 1969-71; served in Vietnam's Mekong Delta with 93rd Engineer Battalion.

Profession: Legislator

Political: Morris County Freeholder, 1974-83; New Jersey Assembly, 1983-94. Defeated Frank Herbert (D) in the 1994 general election with 71% of the vote for the open seat of Rep Dean Gallo (R) who announced his retirement and then died. Chaired the New Jersey Assembly's Appropriations Committee. Reelected in 2000 with 68% of the vote and in 2002 with 72.5%.

Rep Frelinghuysen is a fiscal conservative but more moderate on environmental and social policies. Was one of six Republican first-termers who won seat on Appropriations Cmte. Voted for all the major tenets of the "Contract with America. However, supports abortion rights and in 104th Congress voted to permit privately financed abortions at overseas military hospitals and supported bill to allow federal employees' health care plans to cover abortions.

Considers DoD one of the nation's largest polluters and has steered work to Picatinny designed to make ammunition disposal more environmentally friendly. His district includes 13 sites on the Superfund clean-up list. In the 105th Congress, authored provision in FY98 Defense Authorization Bill that would have set a stricter phase-out schedule for single-hull tankers (Journal of Commerce, 29Oct97). Highlighted problems with VA's National Formulary for drugs and medical devices and said VA policy is hindering proper medical treatment (CR, 17Jul98).

In the 106th Congress, criticized the VA for failing to adequately address what he sees as the epidemic nature of Hepatitis C among veterans in New Jersey; voiced support for the Army's Crusader heavy artillery system designed at Picatinny; called for adequate pay, housing and child care for military personnel; and succeeded in getting \$5.6M in the FY2001 milcon appropriations bill for Army's Armament Software Engineering Center.

In the 107th Congress, expressed his support for the Crusader and included language in Committee directing DOD to take no action until the Pentagon provided Congress with a detailed analysis of a recommended alternative. Worked to get another C-17 squadron assigned to McGuire AFB, NJ.

Additional: Ancestry dates back to the first Frelinghuysen, Frederick, who was a member of the Continental Congress in 1779 and elected to Senate in 1793. His father, Peter, was a House member from 1953-75. He is the sixth Frelinghuysen to represent New Jersey in Congress. Family also includes a founder of Queens College, now called Rutgers.

AF Bases: None

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS -- Subcs on Defense; Energy and Water; DC - Chmn

